

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 3-7, 13-18 and 65-85 are pending in the present application.
2. Claims 1, 2, 8-12 and 19-64 have been cancelled. Claims 3, 4, 13, 14, and 17 have been amended; and new claims 65-85 have been added.

Drawings

3. The drawings were received on November 24, 2003. These drawings are acceptable.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 3-7, 13-18 and 65-85 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
Applicant's amendment overcomes the rejections cited under 35 USC 101, 35 USC 112 and 35 USC 103(a) citing Kaler et al. in view of Bourret et al.. The prior art of record fails to teach the limitations of independent claims 3, 7, 13 and 17. Specifically, regarding independent claim 3, the following limitation is not taught for a data structure storing a schema for a generic document: "a key identifier to identify a key value field to be used as a key in a data store, wherein: the definition of the first element includes a definition of a first attribute of the first element, the definition of the first attribute including the key identifier; and the key identifier identifies the element value field as the

key value field." Regarding independent claim 7, the following limitation is not taught for a data structure storing a schema for a generic document: "a key identifier to identify a key value field to be used as a key in a data store, wherein the data structure further includes: a definition of a second element, the definition of the second element including a second element value field; and a tree structure including the first element and the second element." The limitations of claim 13 parallels claim 3; therefor it is allowed for similar reasons. Regarding independent claim 17, the following limitation is not disclosed as claimed: "the data store is operative to store a second generic document and to store a second value for a second key value field, the value loaded from the first generic document; and the system further comprises a second schema applicable to the second generic document, the second schema including: a definition of a second element, the definition of the second element including an element value field; and a second key identifier to identify the second key value field in the second generic document to be used as a key in a data store."

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Greta L. Robinson whose telephone number is (571)272-4118. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim T. Vo can be reached on (571)272-3642. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Greta L. Robinson/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2168
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